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12 August 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Research Branch/TSD

SUBJECT : Areas of Research Important to TSD/EB


1. TSD/EB has accumulated an extensive background in several engineering fields. There have been and are to date problems of a basic nature which limit and sometimes defeat the development undertaken.

2. One of the oldest problems in the field of sabotage equipment relates to the development of a means of initiating explosives and incendiaries in such a manner that a period of time ranging from five minutes to one or two hours will elapse between initiation and detonation. Present devices are capable of accomplishing this but with some serious qualifications. Chemical time delays such as the M-1 Time Pencil and A. C. Delay are highly dependent upon temperature. Present clockwork delays are too expensive to use in general training, are complex in handling, and are bulky. What is needed is a small, inexpensive, reliable, temperature independent, simple to operate device. What TSD/EB needs to develop such a device is assistance in exploring radically different avenues of approach to obtain the time factor required in a delay initiator.

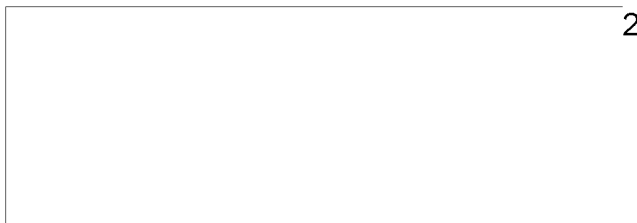
3. We would like to discuss this matter with you in further detail at your convenience.



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Chief
TSD/Engineering BranchDD/P/TSD/EB/  :mt

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